

Rewrite the paragraph starting at page 11, line 15 and ending at page 11, line 19, as follows:

A 2

-- The reading of the software program, which is to be protected, using the external storage device 109, and the storage of the software program in the secondary storage device 104 are performed by the CPU 101, based on the program stored in the ROM 103. --.

Rewrite the paragraph starting at page 15, line 6 and ending at page 15, line 11, as follows:

A 3

-- The reading of the software program, for which the limited usage time is established, from the external storage device 109, and the storage of the software program in the secondary storage device 104 are performed by the CPU 101 based on the program stored in the ROM 103. --.

Rewrite the paragraph starting at page 18, line 5 and ending at page 18, line 16, as follows:

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-- Fig. 5 is a diagram showing the arrangement of the server 150. The server 150 comprises: a CPU 151, a memory 152, a console device 153, a GPS interface 155, a GPS receiver 158, a communication interface 159, and a communication device 156. The GPS interface 155, the GPS receiver 158, the communication interface 159 and the communication device 156 have the same arrangements as the GPS interface 105, the GPS receiver 108, the communication interface 119 and the communication

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device 116 in Fig. 4. In addition to the arrangement shown in Fig. 5, the server 150 has a circuit that functions as a server. --.

Rewrite the paragraph starting at page 20, line 14 and ending at page 20, line 24, as follows:

A5

-- When the result obtained at step 404 indicates that the data differ considerably, it is assumed that some alteration of the data was performed, and program control is shifted to step 405. At step 405, a message that the license agreement may have been breached is displayed by the console device 153 for the license manager. Therefore, evidence that the protection capability has been damaged can be obtained and a warning can be issued to the user who is employing the licensed software, or the GPS reception data can be employed as material evidence. --

Rewrite the paragraph starting at page 21, line 26 and ending at page 22, line 10, as follows:

AG

-- The processing for the prevention of unlawful access will now be described, in accordance with a fifth embodiment, while referring to the flowchart in Fig. 7. In Fig. 7, the console CPU 101 (or the main CPU 110) of the semiconductor manufacturing apparatus performs steps 1201 and 1202, and the CPU 151 of the server 150 performs steps 1203 to 1205. In this embodiment, the server 150 does not require the GPS receiver 158 and the GPS interface 155. The program shown at steps 1203 to 1205 is stored in the memory 152, so it can be retrieved by the CPU 151, which constitutes a computer. --.

Rewrite the paragraph starting at page 22, line 23 and ending at page 23, line 3, as follows:

A7 -- The GPS receiver 108 embedded in the semiconductor aligner obtains the latitude and longitude information for the current location whereat the semiconductor aligner is installed (step 1201), and the GPS reception data (latitude and longitude information) is then transmitted to the server 150, which performs the remote access, via the communication interface 119 and the communication device 116 (step 1202).

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Rewrite the paragraph starting at page 23, line 19 and ending at page 24, line 2, as follows:

A8 -- When, as a result of the determination, it is found that the latitude and longitude information that is included in the GPS information for the location of the apparatus has been shifted and defines a location outside the offset range, it is ascertained that this data is unlawful location data or invalid GPS reception data that has been altered or forged (step 1204). Program control is then shifted to step 1205, and the communication device 156 is disconnected from the semiconductor aligner. The remote access is thereafter terminated. --.

Rewrite the paragraph starting at page 25, line 15 and ending at page 25, line 26, as follows:

AP1

-- The ID data is written in the RAM 102 by the main CPU 110, and in accordance with an instruction from the console CPU 101, the ID data is transmitted to the communication interface 119 and the communication device 116, and is then output via the communication network 117 to the server 150, which performs the remote access. The ID data may be, for example, ASCII text, but it is preferable that the data be encrypted when it is written on the reticle and that the encrypted data be transmitted to the server 150 that performs the remote access, and that the server 150 decrypt the encrypted data using a secret key that it manages. --.

Rewrite the paragraph starting at page 26, line 8 and ending at page 26, line 19, as follows:

A10

-- The semiconductor aligner further comprises: a projection lens 3306; a wafer 3307, which is a semiconductor substrate; a wafer Z stage 3308, for supporting the wafer 3307 and for adjusting the focus relative to the light source 1301; an XY stage 3309, for moving the wafer Z stage 3308 in the XY direction; a laser interferometer 4310, for measuring the position of the XY stage 3309; a wafer supply hand 3311, for supplying the wafer 3307 to the wafer Z stage 3308 for the exposure process; and a wafer collection hand 3312, for collecting the wafer 3307 from the wafer Z stage 3308 after the exposure process has been completed. --.

Rewrite the paragraph starting at page 26, line 24 and ending at page 27, line 5, as follows:

A11

-- Minute pattern marks for micrometer units, such as a reticle set mark, a reticle reference mark, a stage reference mark, a TTL-AF reference mark and a wafer reference mark, which are used when positioning the reticle and the wafer, are written on the reticle 2303 and the stages 2304, 3308 and 3309. In order to read these patterns and marks, the semiconductor manufacturing apparatus is provided with various types of special optical scopes that can read minute patterns. --.

Rewrite the paragraph starting at page 27, line 23 and ending at page 28, line 6, as follows:

A12

-- For the character data, the serial number of the apparatus written using ASCII code may be used as the ID. However, it is more preferable that character data be obtained by encrypting the serial number using a secret key and that it be written on a special optical part, such as a reticle; that the encrypted ID be decrypted by using the secret key managed by the server 150 that performs the remote access; and that the decrypted ID be examined using the list of the IDs for which remote access is permitted, that is stored in the memory 152. --.

Rewrite the paragraph starting at page 32, line 22 and ending at page 33, line 1, as follows:

A13

-- The console CPU 101 then transmits, via the communication interface 119 and the communication device 116, the GPS reception data (latitude and longitude information) obtained from the GPS receiver 108 and the composite ID (the serial number inherent to the apparatus and the location information) that is read from the reticle transport device 112 (step 503). --.